



CITY COUNCIL

Committee of the Whole

Monday, March 28, 2022

5:00 pm

Hybrid Meeting

Agenda

The City Council Committee of the Whole meetings are filmed and can be viewed LIVE while the meeting is taking place via the attached Zoom link and dial-in phone number, on Facebook and on BCTV MAC Channel 99 or at your convenience at <https://www.readingpa.gov/content/city-council-video>.

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Passcode: 097681

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Webinar ID: 886 5148 6909

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- I. Check in with Berks State Legislature**
- II. Appointments to the Redevelopment Authority – M. Gombar**
- III. Containing Charter Board Costs**
- IV. Agenda Review**

CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF READING,
BERKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

DATE: March 20, 2022
TO: City Council
FROM: City Council Solicitor
RE: Reading Redevelopment Authority

In light of the vacancy on the RRA Board created by Nate Rivera's recent resignation, it is noteworthy that a recent change in law has provided Council (no longer the Mayor) with the authority to appoint members to this Authority Board.

To elaborate, prior to July 14, 2020, the Urban Redevelopment Law of 1945 provided that the Mayor had authority to appoint board members.

However, in 2020, the law was changed to give the Council with the appointment powers. For your reference, the text of the legislation is below:

Section 5. Appointment and Qualifications of Members of Authority.--Upon certification of a resolution declaring the need for an Authority to operate in a [city] municipality or county, [~~the mayor or board of county commissioners thereof, respectively,~~] the governing body shall appoint, as members of the Authority, five citizens who, except in the case of cities of the third class, shall be residents of the [city] municipality or county in which the Authority is to operate. In the case of a city of the third class, a majority of the members of the Authority shall be residents of the city, and the remainder may be nonresidents who own and operate businesses in the city in which the Authority is to operate.

[2020 Act 58 - PA General Assembly \(state.pa.us\)](https://www.pa.gov/documents/000001/2020-act-58)

The statute defines governing body of a city as "the city council or legislative body thereof."

So, Council is now in the position to fill this vacancy.

/dh